

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This application is a division of U.S. Application No. 10/080,098, filed February 21, 2002, and, because of a restriction requirement, claims 27–31 are withdrawn from consideration in Application No. 10/080,098. This preliminary amendment cancels claims 1–26 in the above-identified divisional application in order to present claims 27–31 for examination, and attends to other matters of form.